Message Text

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ACTION AID-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-04 EUR-08 ISO-00 SWF-01 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 EB-04 FRB-01 INR-05 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CIEP-01

SP-02 STR-01 TRSE-00 LAB-01 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 PC-01

USIA-06 IO-04 DODE-00 AGR-05 INT-05 /060 W

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R 261200Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8803

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

USEC MISSION BRUSSELS 0280

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: EAID. XA

SUBJ:MEETING OF AID ADMINISTRATOR PARKER WITH ROBERT TOULEMON, DIRECTEUR DU CABINET, FRENCH MINISTRY OF COOPERATION, OCTOBER 24.

- 1. TOULEMON, ACCOMPANIED BY JEAN AUDIBERT, DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMS, MET WITH A/AID PARKER, SPECIAL ASSISTANT JONNES, DAA/AFR BROWN AND EMBECON MINISTER. HE AGAIN EMPHASIZED FRANCE'S NOW COMPLETELY FORTHCOMING ATTITUDE TOWARD COOPERATION WITH U.S./ OTHERS ON AID TO AFRICA.
- $2.\ M.$ TOULEMON INQUIRED ABOUT US CONTRIBUTION TO MSAS. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PARKER EXPLAINED OUR DIFFICULTIES IN DETERMINING AMOUNTS,

SINCE FA ACT STILL PENDING IN CONGRESS AND OUR UNCERTAINTY AS TO TOTAL LEVEL PL 480 GIVEN PHYSICAL LIMITATIONS AND DOMESTIC PRICE EFFECTS. TOULEMON STRESSED THAT FOOD SUPPLY/PRICE WAS EOUALLY TOUCHY PROBLEM FOR FRANCE/EEC.

3. TOULEMON HAD JUST RETURNED TO PARIS FROM SENEGAL WHERE HE HEADED "COMITE DE DIALOGUE" BETWEEN FRANCE AND GOS. HE SAID HE WAS MOST IMPRESSED BY QUALITY OF PREPARATION BY SENEGALESE, PARTICULARLY BY PRIME MINISTER ABDOU DIOUF. HE DID NOT DISCUSS SUBSTANTIVE CONCLUSIONS OF DIALOGUE, BUT MADE FOLLOWING IMPORTANT OBSERVATIONS:

A. PRESIDENT SENGHOR WAS DISAPPOINTED IN USG ATTITUDE TOWARD EEC/ACP AID/TRADE ARRANGEMENTS. SENGHOR IS STRONG PARTISAN OF REVERSE PREFERENCE SCHEME AND CRITICIZED FRANCE/EEC FOR ACCEDING ON THIS QUESTION. TOULEMON EXPRESSED HOPE THAT NOW THAT FRANCE HAD ACTED TO REMOVE REVERSE PREFERENCE ISSUE, USG WOULD SHOW ITSELF TO BE MORE SYMPATHETIC TO DEVELOPMENT OF EEC/AP RELATIONSHIP.

B. ACCORDING TO TOULEMON, SENEGALESE FEEL US EXERTS PRESSURE ON EUROPEAN COMMUNITY TO SPREAD AID OUT AMONG THIRD WORLD, IN ESSENCE UNDERMINING SPECIAL POLITICAL RELATIONSHIPS WITH REGARD TO AID, SUCH AS EC/FRENCH RELATION TO WEST AFRICA STATES.

C. SENEGAL WOULD LIKE TO ENCOURAGE GREATER SENSITIVITY BY US TO DEVELOPMENT OF BROADER AFRICAN REGINAL ECONOMIC GROUPING, WITHOUT FORCING INITIAL ACCEPTANCE OF NIGERIA IN GROUPING, AS STEP TOWARD EVENTUAL FULLER REGIONAL COORDINATION. TOULEMON EXPRESSED CONCERN FELT BY SENGHOR AND HOUPHOUET BOIGNY ABOUT DEALING WITH UNEQUAL GIANT, ADDING THAT THESE LEADERS RECOGNIZED GROWING NEED TO COOPERATE, NOT MERELY BE DEFENSIVE TOWARD NIGERIA, BUT THAT BETTER ECONOMIC ORDER AMONGST THEMSELVES WAS ESSENTIAL STEP.

4. TOULEMON NOTED IMPATIENCE OF SENEGALESE TO GET OMVS BASIN DEVELOPMENT SCHEME STARTED. HE CALLED ATTENTION PARTICULARLY TO RURAL INFLUX TO DAKAR CAUSED BY DROUGHT IN NORTH WITH INCREASING URBAN SLUM POPULATION CAUSING POTENTIALLY SERIOUS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SOCIAL PROBLEMS IF NOT CHECKED. HE BELIEVES NOW INEVITABLE THAT OMVS SCHEME WILL BE UNDERTAKEN AND URGED EARLY REALIZATION FOR POLITICAL AS WELL AS DEVELOPMENTAL REASONS.

5. PARKER INDICATED THAT HE HAD SENT LETTER TO MAURICE WILLIAMS, DAC CHAIRMAN, URGING HIS HELP IN BRINGING DONORS TOGETHER TO DISCUSS CONSULTATIVE FRAMEWORK FOR SUPPORT OF SAHEL LONGER TERM DEVELOPMENT. TOULEMON SAID THAT MINCOOPERATION

LETTER TO WILLIAMS WOULD BE FORTHCOMING SHORTLY. PARKER EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR TALKS OF FULLEST POSSIBLE FRANKNESS, ADDING THAT AID IS NOW SEEKING TO DETERMINE HOW IT CAN FIND FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR LONGER TERM SAHEL DEVELOPMENT AS COMPLEMENT TO CONSULTING ARRANGEMENT. WHILE WE WILL SEEK TO KEEP MINISTRY OF COOPERATION AS CLOSELY INFORMED AS POSSIBLE ON OUR IDEAS AND WILL WISH TO WORK DETAILS OUT WITH THEM, THEY SHOULD NOT BE SURPRISED IF SOME PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT ON GENERAL APPROACH SHOULD BE MADE AT ANYTIME.

6. TOULEMON THEN RAISED QUESTION OF SUBSTANTIVE BILATERAL MINCOOPERATION DISCUSSIONS WITH AID ON WHOLE RANGE OF AFRICA AID ISSUES. SUBJECT HAD BEEN RAISED BETWEEN AA/AFR ADAMS AND MINCOOPERATION ABELIN DURING SEPTEMBER 9 MEETINGS. IT WAS AGREED SUCH MEETINGS SHOULD OCCUR EARLY IN CY 75 IN COMPLEMENT TO THE FORTHCOMING DONOR DISCUSSIONS ON THE SAHEL.

7. A NOTE OF URGENCY WAS INTRODUCED BY TOULEMON WITH REGARD TO GRASSHOPPER INFESTATION IN SENEGAL AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES. PARKER AND BROWN ASSURED HIM THAT A MODEST START HAS BEEN MADE AND THAT WE ARE OPEN TO PROVIDE COMPLEMENTARY SUPPORT PROMPTLY AS SOON AS PROPER INDICES ARE BROUGHT TO OUR ATTENTION. SUBJECT WILL BE REPORTED SEPARATELY. AGGREY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: DISASTER RELIEF, MEETINGS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 26 OCT 1974 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974DAKAR05905

Document Number: 1974DAKAR05905 Document Source: CORE Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

Film Number: D740308-0675

From: DAKAR

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741014/aaaaalaa.tel Line Count: 139 Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

Office: ACTION AID

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 3

Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Reference: n/a

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: golinofr

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 08 APR 2002

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a Review History: RELEASED <08 APR 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <06-Aug-2002 by golinofr>

Review Markings:

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: EETING OF AID ADMINISTRATOR PARKER WITH ROBERT TOULEMON, DIRECTEUR DU CABINET, FRENCH MINISTRY OF

TAGS: EAID, XA, FR, US, (PARKER), (TOULEMON, ROBERT)

To: STATE

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005